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January 09, 2008 08:20:01 IP address: 159.250.61.154 The Commentors Name: ---> Mr. Jonathan von Ranson The Commentors Address: ---> 6 Lockes Village Rd ---> Wendell, Massachusetts 01379 Email Information: ---> commonfarm@crocker.com ---> Add commentor to the mailing list : no Contact Information: ---> fax number: 978 544 3758 ---> phone number : 978 544 3758 ---> organization : Northeast Organic Farming Association, Mass. Chapter ---> position : Newsletter Editor

Comment Text

--> The use of TADs -- assuming they physically hold as promised, for all three phases of their extraordinarily long, life, subject to various unanticipated activities as well as the known forces of deterioration -- still shifts a number of risks to local communities around the nation. The high level wastes stored at many nuclear plants will have to be "repackaged."

This extra step bespeaks the changing technology (not always out of clear advancement, either, but to try to compensate for inevitable weaknesses in the technology being superseded). While a plan needs to be made for the existing waste, a) more does not need to be produced, and b) the stated risk of any plan should include prominent mention of the likely changes in identified risks, and the likelihood that other technologies will supersede current ones in what may in actuality be a risk management shell game for the same pool of radioactive waste.

On the rail alignment issue, there is no legal justification for the inclusion of an alternative (the Mina corridor) that has not been authorized -- that in fact has been rejected -- by the tribal council involved. It seems to me the government has failed to show only reasonable and prudent alternatives, and has shown one that manifests a disregard for a sovereign jurisdiction that raises doubts about its treatment of tribal sovereignty around other aspects of the Yucca Mountain project.